

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2525

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit certain Mexican children, and accompanying adults, to obtain a waiver of the documentation requirements otherwise required to enter the United States as a temporary visitor.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 19, 2003

Mr. FILNER (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HONDA, Ms. LEE, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. REYES, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. WATSON, and Mr. RODRIGUEZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit certain Mexican children, and accompanying adults, to obtain a waiver of the documentation requirements otherwise required to enter the United States as a temporary visitor.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Visitors Interested in
5 Strengthening America (VISA) Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. WAIVER OF DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR**
2 **CERTAIN NONIMMIGRANT CHILDREN AND**
3 **ACCOMPANYING ADULTS.**

4 Section 212(d)(4) of the Immigration and Nationality
5 Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(4)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “(4)” and inserting “(4)(A)”;

7 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B),
8 and (C) as clauses (i), (ii), and (iii), respectively;
9 and

10 (3) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(B)(i) Upon application by an alien who is citizen
12 or national of Mexico, and who is applying for admission
13 as a visitor under section 101(a)(15)(B) from Mexico, the
14 Department of Homeland Security official in charge at a
15 port of entry may, in the exercise of his or her discretion,
16 on a case-by-case basis, waive either or both of the docu-
17 mentary requirements of section 212(a)(7)(B)(i), if satis-
18 fied that the alien is in possession of proper identification,
19 as provided under clause (ii), and—

20 “(I) is a child coming for a regular medical ap-
21 pointment (as evidenced by proof such as a letter
22 from the medical professional concerned), or is the
23 parent (or other adult chaperone) accompanying
24 such a child, except that the number of adults ad-
25 mitted under this subclause shall not exceed one per
26 child;

1 “(II) is a child coming with a student group to
2 participate in an educational or cultural event (such
3 as an athletic or academic event, a concert or other
4 artistic performance, or a visit to a recreational,
5 touristic, or historical site) for not more than 1 day
6 (as evidenced by proof such as a letter of invitation
7 issued to the group), or is an adult chaperone, such
8 as a teacher, coach, or parent, accompanying such a
9 group, except that the number of chaperones admit-
10 ted under this subclause shall not exceed that suffi-
11 cient to supervise the group involved; or

12 “(III) is a child coming to participate in a spe-
13 cial community event that traditionally has been at-
14 tended by individuals from both sides of the border
15 (as evidenced by proof such as a public letter of invi-
16 tation issued by the community concerned), or is a
17 parent or other adult relative accompanying such a
18 child.

19 “(ii)(I) For purposes of this subparagraph, in the
20 case of a child, proper identification shall include a pass-
21 port, birth certificate, or other proof of citizenship or na-
22 tionality.

23 “(II) In the case of an adult, proper identification
24 shall include a passport, birth certificate, or other proof
25 of citizenship or nationality, and a government-issued

1 driver’s license, or similar document issued for the purpose
2 of identification, that contains personal identifying infor-
3 mation and a photograph.

4 “(iii) For purposes of this subparagraph—

5 “(I) the term ‘child’ means an unmarried per-
6 son under 16 years of age; and

7 “(II) the term ‘adult’ means any person who is
8 not a child.”.

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